GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5575
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2002
AMENDMENT IN CINEMATOGRAPH ACT, 1952
KANTI SINGH

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a): whether there is a demand to amend the section 5B of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 in order to restrict the certificate for public exhibition of the films depicting sex and romance, inciting and commissioning of violence in any form, planning of robbery, theft and kidnapping and consuming liquor etc.;

(b): if so, whether the Government propose to take any action in this regard;

(c): if so, the details thereof; and

(d): the time by which an amending bill is likely to be introduced?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (Smt. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (d): The certification guidelines issued by the Central Governmentunder sub-section (2) of section 5B of the Cinematograph Act, 1952, already discourage, inter-alia,
(i) scenes involving sexual violence against women like attempt to rape, rape or any form of molestation;
(ii) scenes showing sexual perversions;
(iii) scenes depicting the modus operandi of criminals, other visuals or words likely to incite commissioning of any offence; and
(iv) scenes which have the effect of justifying or glorifying drinking.

An Expert Committee has been constituted to review some of thestatutes related to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting under the Chairmanship of Shri P.M. Bakshi, retired Member (Secretary) of LawCommission. Review of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 also falls under the purview of this Expert Committee.